

GAVEL FALLS ON GREATEST CONVENTION KNOWN; ROOSEVELT READY TO MAKE APPEAL ON FLOOR

COLONEL MAY ENTER THE COLISEUM IN OWN BEHALF.

Awaits Psychological Moment to Project Himself Into Arena—Will Influence Delegates With His Personality.

CONSULTS LEADERS REGARDING TIME TO MAKE HIS APPEARANCE

By JOHN SNURE.

CHICAGO, Ill., June 18.—Colonel Roosevelt is ready at the drop of the hat to go into the convention hall itself and make an appeal direct to the delegates.

He may go today or he may go later on in the convention. The point is, he will be prepared to go any moment his leaders deem it necessary, any moment they think the psychological time has arrived for him to project himself into the arena.

This is so well understood that the corps of newspaper men detailed to keep track of his movements have made every preparation at an instant's notice to follow him into the coliseum.

The colonel was up bright and early this morning and about 9 o'clock began holding conferences.

"We've Got 'Em Beat," Says Roosevelt to a Delegate

CHICAGO, June 18.—"We've got 'em beat," declared Colonel Roosevelt enthusiastically when he greeted Jacob Holtzman, a Kings county, New York, delegate, at the Congress Hotel today. This was his first expression of the day as to the prospects for the convention.

Will Support McGovern As Temporary Chairman

CHICAGO, June 18.—Senator Borah announced today he would not be the Roosevelt candidate for temporary chairman of the Republican convention. Gov. Francis McGovern, of Wisconsin, has been selected to lead the fight against Senator Root for the temporary chairmanship.

The substitution of McGovern for Borah as candidate for temporary chairman is part of the Roosevelt plan to capture the thirty-six La Follette votes.

Taft Leaders Lose Places On National Committee

CHICAGO, June 18.—Hard jolts have been given the national committee by the caucuses already held. The new committee which will be organized after the convention, will contain many new faces. Many of the old guard are already as good as driven into retirement. The aroused Roosevelt men have hit their enemies in the caucuses wherever they could find them. Here are a few samples of what has happened:

Victor Rosewater, of Nebraska, is displaced by R. B. Howell.

David W. Mulvane, of Kansas, long an old guard wheel horse, gives way to William Allen White, fighting insurgent.

Secretary Charles Nagel, of Missouri, is supplanted by Thomas K. Niedringhaus.

Arthur I. Vorys, of Ohio, gives way to Walter Brown.

United States Senator Penrose gives way to William Flinn in Pennsylvania. Scott is replaced in West Virginia by William E. Edwards, and so on.

Blow after blow has fallen on the heads of the men who have been bolstering up President Taft's cause.

The old guard in Ohio is much cast down over the loss of Vorys.

Barnes Denies the Report Of Further Desertions

COLISEUM, CHICAGO, June 18.—The report was persistently circulated in the hall that a break to Roosevelt was imminent in the New York delegation. When State Chairman William Barnes, Jr., was asked about it he said: "There is absolutely no truth in the report New York is now solid. All of the Roosevelt defections have been accounted for."

The report that any more New York delegates will desert the President of the United States is absolutely unfounded."

Central Figure in Political Storm at Chicago Today



VICTOR ROSEWATER,
Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

ANIMATED SCENES AS THE DELEGATES ENTER BIG HALL

COLISEUM, CHICAGO, June 18.—Amid a clattering of hammers before an audience of newspaper men and policemen, the final preparations for the Republican national convention were completed early today. Standing on the platform where, a few minutes later, an historic political fight was to be staged, Col. William F. Stone, sergeant-at-arms to the national committee, personally superintended the final touches and gave final directions.

The great hall, transformed into a theater-like audience room, was empty except for the few scattered workmen and the police.

Blue coats and brass buttons were everywhere. One might almost think that blue and brass was part of the decoration scheme, for it was only a little less prominent than the tri-colored bunting that formed a brilliant background.

An Improvised Barracks. The coliseum annex, where the offices of the national committee are located, was turned into an improvised barracks. Policemen in platoons were drawn up under their commander, Assistant Chief Herman F. Schuetler. The last orders were brief and crisp. Then the men were led to their stations. The first line filed in along the front of the platform and the speakers' stand. Twenty-seven men were placed there as a possible buffer between delegates and the stand should trouble start.

Other officers were sent to their stations in the hall, the tacit admission on the part of the committee that they

feared actual physical disturbance as a result of the heat the bitter fight between Colonel Roosevelt and President Taft had engendered.

Then came the 1,000 assistant sergeants-at-arms. They filled the aisles and stood ready to handle the crowd that waited impatiently in the street outside.

Band Rehearses. In a balcony high up over the rear of the building a band impatiently sounded subdued bars of the music they soon would play.

While the hammers still clattered, E. W. Sorrell of the Sixth Louisiana district, who had been steam rolled into the convention by the national committee, bucked the police line outside and forced his way into the building. He was the first delegate on the floor, and he looked lonesome as he waited under the standard of his State.

Capt. Harry S. New, chairman of the national committee, subcommittee on

arrangements, was the first of the notables to join Colonel Stone on the platform. The Indiana committeeman, hands in pockets and hat well back on head, strolled to the front of the platform, glanced about, smiled as he saw the police patrol, and was so pleased when he heard a passing sergeant-at-arms exclaim at the beauty of the decorations that he cheerfully withdrew to allow the photographers to snap their cameras at him.

The first State delegation to arrive was that of Georgia. They were followed shortly afterward by representatives of the Mississippi, New Hampshire, Ohio, and Illinois delegations. The early arrival of the delegates caused surprise, as at previous conventions alternates have been the early comers. However, it was explained that some of the delegates were fearful their places on the floor would be usurped and they did not care to take any chances.

More Police Stationed.

At 10:45 a second squad of fifty policemen, most of them members of the traffic squad, filed into the hall. They took places at the rear of the platform so that they commanded it on all sides. Plain clothes officers were also scattered through the galleries and some of them leaned against the side walls where they could command the delegate reservation. It was 8 o'clock when they were ready for anything that might come up.

The New York delegation came in at 10:40, headed by William Barnes, Jr. (Continued on Second Page.)

RIOTOUS SCENES AT OPENING OF THE CONVENTION.

Fist Fight Immediately After Prayer Is Offered—Aisles Cleared by Police and Deputy Sheriffs.

GOV. HADLEY IS RECOGNIZED DESPITE PROTEST BY BARNES

COLISEUM, CHICAGO, June 18.—At 12:02, the convention was called to order by Victor Rosewater, chairman of the national committee.

Immediately after Chairman Rosewater's gavel fell, an attempt was made to take a flashlight picture. But few of the delegates heeded the sergeant-at-arms as he tried to make himself heard, and finally Stone had to order the police to clear the aisles.

Rosewater kept pounding away with his gavel, but the noise from the delegates was so great not one-fourth of the audience could hear the sound of the blows falling on the mahogany pedestal.

It was a slow, difficult task to clear the aisles, and finally Stone ordered Captain Healy to take from the front of the stage enough men to accomplish the task.

Anvil Chorus Is Given.

At this moment La Follette delegates slipped in with a big old-fashioned box affair, on four sides of which were legends boosting "Fighting Bob."

Deputies immediately rushed the affair out a side door.

While Rosewater pounded the table and the officers struggled with the throng in the aisles, the California delegates gave their anvil chorus which wound up with a chanted hurrah for their State.

Sporadic cheers for Root were heard from Georgia and Mississippi as the confusion increased.

Finally Stone called to his chief assistants through his megaphone, and sent in a call for the police reserves.

"I want you to get the chief of police, and tell him every aisle in the hall must be cleared of every man regardless of his badges or credentials," he said. "No one must be permitted to remain in them. I want everybody out of the aisles, no matter how many policemen it may require."

Stone Works His Megaphone.

Stone held his place at the front of the platform with his megaphone in his hands. William Barnes, Jr., just in front of him, nodded his approval as Stone kept the uniformed officers on the job trying to get the aisles clear and order restored.

One of the Georgia delegates insisted on making a speech to his own delegation, shaking a gold-headed cane and gesticulating wildly. Whistles, cat-calls and persuasions of deputies could not make him sit down for five minutes.

Assistants of the chief were finally called to the front by Stone, who complained of the delay in clearing the aisles. Policemen were then stationed at intervals of a few feet along each aisle and at 12:15 Rosewater made another attempt to make himself heard.

Rev. Father Callaghan, of St. Malachi's Church, of Chicago, delivered a very brief invocation.

It was 12:21 when the opening invocation ended and Secretary Hayward was called on to read the call for the convention.

Flinn and his Pennsylvania men could hardly contain themselves while the formal proceedings were going on, so anxious were they to start the fight.

A Pennsylvania and New York delegate got into a fight over a seat and the Pennsylvania man finally appealed to the police and to a deputy sergeant-at-arms to get his seat. The New Yorkers vacated a seat and peace was restored.

Little attention was paid to Hayward as he read the call, and it is doubtful if a dozen delegates heard him.

While Flinn and other Roosevelt leaders were straining at their leashes ready for the signal Barnes and his lieutenants sat stolidly in

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WEATHER REPORT.

FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT.
Unsettled and cooler weather, probably showers tonight or Wednesday.

TEMPERATURES.
U. S. BUREAU. 8 a. m. 74. 8 a. m. 74. 9 a. m. 74. 10 a. m. 76. 11 a. m. 78. 12 noon 79. 1 p. m. 80. 2 p. m. 81. AFFLECK'S. 8 a. m. 74. 9 a. m. 74. 10 a. m. 76. 11 a. m. 78. 12 noon 79. 1 p. m. 80. 2 p. m. 81.

TIDE TABLE.
Today—High tide, 10:38 a. m. and 11:04 p. m.; low tide, 4:23 a. m. and 8:10 p. m. Tomorrow—High tide, 11:23 a. m.; low tide, 5:23 a. m. and 6:02 p. m.